

Appln. No. 10/076,472
Amendment dated October 7, 2003
Reply to Office Action mailed August 13, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 5 through 14 remain in this application. Claims 2 through 4 and 15 have been cancelled. Claims 16 through 24 have been added.

The Examiner's rejections will be considered in the order of their occurrence in the Office Action.

Paragraph 1 of the Office Action

Claims 1, 7, 12, 14 and 15 have been objected to for the informalities noted in the Office Action.

Claims 1, 7, 12, and 14 have been amended in a manner believed to clarify any informalities in the language, especially the particular points identified in the Office Action.

Claim 15 has been cancelled.

Withdrawal of the objection to claims 1, 7, 12, 14 and 15 is therefore respectfully requested.

Paragraph 2 of the Office Action

Claims 1-3 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tidcomb.

Claim 1, particularly as amended, requires "a clutch biasing member being coupled to said clutching means, said clutch biasing member being positioned in a tensed state when said clutching means is rotated by said cable member, said clutch biasing member recoiling from said tensed state for rotating said clutching means for winding said cable member onto said clutching means when said lever member is drawn back by the user". These limitations have been taken from claim 4.

Examiner has indicated in paragraph 3 of the Office Action that the prior art of record fails to teach or adequately suggest the claimed features

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of claim 4 together with the base claim and any intervening claims.
Therefore, claim 1, by virtue of its incorporation of the limitations of claim 4 and any intervening claims, is believed to be allowable.

Claim 10 is dependent upon claim 1, particularly as amended, and therefore incorporates the requirements of claim 1. Thus, claim 10 is also believed to be allowable over the cited reference.

Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled.

Withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 1-3 and 10 is therefore respectfully requested.

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action states that claims 4-9 and 11-14 would be allowable if written into independent form with the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The above amendment incorporates the limitations of claims 2 through 4 (in their as-filed form) into the recitation of claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 5 through 14, by virtue of their dependency from amended claim 1, are also submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action

Claim 15 is allowed upon resolution of any objections.

Claim 15 has been cancelled.

New Claims:

New claims 16 through 24 have been added to vary the scope of the claims and clarify the present invention. All limitations are supported by the original disclosure including the specification, drawings and original claims. Claim 16 incorporates the limitations of claims 1, 2 and allowable claim 5. Claims 17 through 20 incorporates the limitations of claims 6 through 9 respectively and dependent from claim 16. Claims 21

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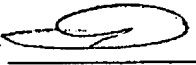
incorporates the limitations of claims 1, 2 and allowable claim 11. Claims 22 through 24 incorporated the limitations of claims 12 through 14 respectively and dependent from claim 21. Therefore, no new matter has been added. The new claims are believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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